WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1.   A system for optimizing package weight comprising:

a delivery fee table correlating package weight to delivery cost; and

a processor configured to:

(i)   calculate a first total weight of a package on the basis of individual components of said package;

(ii)   identify a target weight based on said first total weight and said delivery fee table;

(iii)   identify one or more weight changing alternatives for at least one individual component of said package;

(iv)   determine using said target weight if said weight changing alternative should be implemented; and

(v)   determine a second total weight of said package.

2.   The system of claim 1 further configured to calculate a delivery fee associated with said second total weight.

3.   The system of claim 1 wherein said processor is further configured to:

retrieve individual component unit weights for each of said components.

4.   The system of claim 1, wherein said processor is further configured to:

identify an attribute of at least one of said individual components;

identify an alternative attribute of said one individual component; and

calculate a individual new weight of said individual component with said alternative attribute.

5.   The apparatus of claim 4, wherein said attributes comprise one or more of font type, font size, page margins, media weight, paper size, fastening method, addition and deletion of inserts.

6.   The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said delivery fee target is less than said first total weight.

7. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said delivery fee target is greater than said first total weight.

8. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said processor is configured to interface with an application program associated with at least one of said components.

9. A method of optimizing package weight comprising:

determining the individual weights of components of a parcel;

combining said individual weights of said components to determine a total weight of said package;

identifying possible modifications of said components and corresponding resulting weights achievable from said possible modifications; and

identifying one or more combinations of said possible modifications calculated to change said total weight to a new total weight having a specified relationship to a weight break point.

10. The method of claim 9 wherein said weight break-point is associated with respective delivery fees.

11. The method of claim 10 further comprises the step of calculating a delivery fee associated with at least one of said combinations.

12. The method of claim 9 wherein said step of determining the individual weights of components of a parcel include the steps of:

identifying said individual components; and

retrieving component unit weights.

13. The method of claim 9, wherein said step of identifying possible modifications of said components further comprises the steps of:

identifying an attribute of at least one of said components;

identifying an alternative attribute of said one component; and

calculating a individual new weight of said component with said alternative attribute.

14.   The method of claim 9, wherein said attributes comprise one or more of font type, font size, page margins, media weight, paper size, fastening method, or addition, and deletion of inserts.

15.   The method of claim 9, wherein said specified relationship is one of (i) less than, and (ii) equal to.

16.   The method of claim 9, wherein said step of identifying possible modifications includes a step of interfacing with an application program associated with at least one of said components.

17.   Computer readable code stored on computer media for optimizing package weight comprising:
        a first subprocess for determining the individual weights of components of a parcel;
        a second subprocess for calculating a total weight from said individual weights of said components;
        a third subprocess for identifying possible modifications of said components and corresponding resulting weights achievable from said possible modifications; and
        a fourth subprocess for identifying one or more combinations of said possible modifications calculated to change said total weight to a new total weight having a specified relationship to a weight break-point.

18.   The computer readable code stored on computer media of claim 17 wherein said weight break-point is associated with respective delivery fees and calculating a delivery fee is associated with at least one of said combinations.

19.   The computer readable code stored on computer media of claim 17 wherein said first subprocess for determining the individual weights of components of a parcel includes:
        identifying said individual components; and
        retrieving component unit weights.

20.   The computer readable code stored on computer media of claim 17, wherein said second subprocess of identifying possible modifications of said components further includes:

identifying attribute of at least one of said components;

identifying an alternative attribute of said one component; and

calculating a individual new weight of said component with said alternative attribute.